

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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O 231140Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3609

UNCLAS AMMAN 0523

FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST VISIT OF CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER PUBLISHER-
EDITOR THOMAS VAIL AND WIFE

REF: STATE 015103

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTTEL, EMBASSY IS DEVELOPING FOLLOWING
PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR MR. AND MRS. VAIL, IN ADDITION TO COMMENTS
FROM ME TO ALEX MACHASKEE (AMMAN 494).
2. THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6:
0815- ARRIVE AMMAN VIA SA 986. EMBASSY WILL MEET AT AIRPORT.
0900 ARRIVE AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE WHERE VAILS WILL STAY DURING
VISIT. MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR;
1100--MEETING WITH MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE SALAH
ABU ZAYD;
1200--MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER ZAYD AL RIFAI;
1300--LUNCH-PRIVATELY WITH AMBASSADOR AND MRS. PICERING;
1400--VISIT ROMAN RUINS AT JERASH; VISIT BAKAA PALESTINIAN REFUGEE
CAMP ENROUTE (CAMP TOUR CONDUCTED BY UNRWA);
1700--DEPART JERASH FOR AMMAN;
1800-ARRIVE AMAN;
2030--DINNER IN MR. AND MRS. VAIL'S HONOR GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR;
GUESTS INCLUDE BROAD SELECTION OF JORDANIANS FROM
GOVERNMENT, UNIVERSITY AND PRIVATE SECTORS; NEW CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN
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SOLARZ MAY ALSO BE PRESENT;

3. FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7:

WE SUGGEST ALL-DAY TRIP TO ANCIENT RUIN OF PETRA. 0800 DEPART AMMAN BY CAR; 1100-ARRIVE PETRA; 1500-DEPART PETRA; 1800-ARRIVE AMMAN; ALTERNATIVELY, IF VAILS DESIRE LESS STRENUOUS TRIP. AND ONE ONE MORE GEARED TO CURRENT JORDANIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, WE SUGGEST TOUR OF JORDAN VALLEY AND OF ROMAN RUINS AT UM QEIS OVERLOOKING LAKE TIBERIAS, AND GOLAN HEIGHTS.

1000-DEPART AMMAN;

1600-RETURN AMMAN;

EVENING: FREE;

4. SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8:

1100-AUDIENCE WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN;

1230-AUDIENCE WITH KING HUSSEIN;

(WE ARE LEAVING FLEXIBILITY IN SCHEDULING OTHER APPOINTMENTS TO ACCOMODATE TO PRECISE SCHEDULE FOR AUDIENCES.)

LUNCH--TO BE ARRANGED

AFTERNOON: POSSIBLY TOUR UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN AND ROYAL SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

1900-WE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO PROGRAM MR. VAIL FOR INFORMAL TALK AND QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD ON AMERICAN JOURNALISM AT USIS AMERICAN ENCTER. GUESTS WOULD INCLUDE 20-30 SELECTED INVITEES FROM JORDANIAN MEDIA AND UNIVERSITY CIRCLES. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER MR. VAIL ACCEPTS ENGAGEMENT SO WE CAN SEND INVITATIONS.

DINNER --TO BE ARRANGED;

5. WE ARE ASSUMING MRS. VAIL WOULD PARTICIPATE IN FULL SCHEDULE FOR MR. VAIL UNLESS OTHERWISE ADVISE. ABOVE APPOINTMENT TIMES ARE ALL TENTATIVE, SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION PRIOR TO VISIT. SCHEDULE CAN ALSO BE MODIFIED IF MR. AND MRS.

VAIL ADVISE US OF ANY PREFERENCES OR DESIRED CHANGES IN NEXT FEW DAYS. (JORDANIAN WORKWEEK IS SATURDAY-THURSDAY; JORDANIAN WEEKEND IS THURSDAY AFTERNOON AND FRIDAY). DUE TO ILLNESS PAO THOMPSON, CONTROL OFFICER IS DCM ROSCOE SUDDARTH. HOME PHONE: 41142; OFFICE: 44371.

6. WE LOOKING FORWARD TO MR. AND MRS. VAIL'S VISIT AND WILL BE ACTIVELY PURSUING CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS.

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